

REMARKS:

This communication is in response to the detailed office action dated April 1, 2004. The Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for allowing claims 4-8, 12, and 14.

In the office action the Examiner objected to the claim 5 and 14 for insufficient antecedent basis issues. The Examiner also rejected claims 1-3, 9-11, 13, 15, and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,035,817 to Uchida (hereinafter "Uchida"). Finally, the Examiner objected to claims 4-8, 12, and 14 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitation of the base claim and any intervening claims.


Claim 1 has been amended. The subject matter of allowable claim 4 has been incorporated into claim 1. The rejection of claim 1 is now moot and the Applicants respectfully request the rejection be removed and the claims allowed.

Claims 5 and 14 have been amended to correct antecedent basis issues.

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments, it is believed that the application as a whole is in form for allowance. Should the Examiner have any continuing objections or concerns, the Examiner is respectfully asked to contact the undersigned at 415-442-1106 in order to expedite allowance of this case. Authorization is granted to charge any outstanding fees due at this time for the continued prosecution of this matter to Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP Deposit Account No. 50-0310 (matter no. 060945-0093).

Respectfully submitted,

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